

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 40 – 63, 66-79 were pending.

Claims 40 – 63, 66-79 were rejected.

It is believed that the remarks laid out herein below attend to all rejections and further issues raised in the pending office action dated 11 January 2008.

Claim Rejections

Claims 40 – 63, 66-79 were rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,704,301 in view of Hummel WO 00/0733.

A terminal disclaimer is enclosed that is in compliance with 37CFR 1.321(c) or (d) to overcome the rejection base on nonstatutory double patenting. The conflicting patent US #6,704,301 is commonly owned.

Claims 40 – 63, 66-79 are allowable.

CONCLUSION

Claims 40-44, 46-63, 66-79 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and a notice thereof is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner determine that additional issues remain which might be resolved by a telephone conference, he is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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